

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BANGKO 04041 140159 Z

63

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

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R 131108 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1403

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC

COMUSSAG

CINCUSARPAC

COMUSMACTHAI

S E C R E T BANGKOK 4041

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS-1981- GFM

TAGS: MARR, TH

SUBJECT: USASFT PARTICIPATION IN JCRC ACTIVITIES

REF: A. CINCPAC CASUALTY RESOLUTION PLAN

B. SECDEF 7013 (022335 Z MAR 73)

C. CINCPAC 100359 Z MAR 73

1. BASED ON MY UNDERSTANDING OF REF A, I CONCUR IN PARTICIPATION OF US ARMY SPECIAL FORCES THAILAND (USASFT) IN JCRC OPERATIONS BUT STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS BE INFORMED OF USASFT PART. REF B INDICATES THAT CONGRESS NOTIFIED BY FACT SHEET RE NEED FOR HIGHLY QUALIFIED US PERSONNEL TO LEAD GROUND SEARCHES, AND PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT (REF C) INCLUDES SIMILAR LANGUAGE. HOWEVER, I BELIEVE IT PRUDENT TO BRING USAFT' S PART TO CONGRESSIONAL ATTENTION, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW CONGRESSIONAL AND OTHER RECORDS WHICH EMPHASIZE THAT TRAINING OF THAI FORCES (PRIMARILY TRAINERS) IS SOLE REASON FOR PRESENCE OF US ARMY SPECIAL FORCES IN THAILAND. I RECOGNIZE THAT USASFT PARTICIPATION IN JCRC OPERATIONS DOES NOT ALTER REASON FOR THEIR PRESENCE IN THAILAND BUT BELIEVE KEEPING CONGRESS INFORMED RE USASFT AND RECORD STRAIGHT IN THIS CASE WOULD BE USEFUL IN LIGHT OF PAST INTENSE CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN USASFT.

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2. AS A RELATED MATTER TO MANNING OF JCRC, MILITARY PLANNERS SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT USASFT MAY BECOME CANDIDATES FOR DRAWDOWN FROM THAILAND IN NOT- TOO- DISTANT FUTURE. THEREFORE, BELIEVE PLANNERS CONCERNED WITH MANNING JCRC SHOULD BE PREPARED IF AND WHEN NECESSARY TO FILL JCRC PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS BY OTHER MEANS, POSSIBLY DIRECTLY FROM USASFT ON PERMANENT BASIS.
UNGER

SECRET

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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